



# Australian Bureau of Statistics

## 6202.0.30.005 - Labour Force Survey and Labour Mobility, Australia: Basic Confidentialised Unit Record File, Technical Manual, Feb 2006

Previous ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 11/05/2007 First Issue

## Summary

### Main Features

#### SUMMARY COMMENTARY

#### OVERVIEW

This paper provides information about the release of microdata from the February 2006 Labour Force Survey (LFS) and the Labour Mobility survey. The microdata are available as a Basic Confidentialised Unit Record File (CURF) released with the approval of the Australian Statistician. The CURF is available on CD-ROM, and via the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Remote Access Data Laboratory (RADL).

The RADL is an on-line database query system, under which microdata are held on a server at the ABS. Users of the RADL can submit programs in SAS, SPSS and Stata software to interrogate and analyse the microdata, and access the results. Further information about the RADL facility and information about obtaining access to the file is available on the ABS website <<https://www.abs.gov.au>> Services We Provide> CURF Microdata>.

#### ABOUT THE SURVEY

The monthly LFS provides information on the labour market activity of the usual resident civilian population of Australia aged 15 years and over, including estimates of the number of employed and unemployed people, the unemployment rate and the labour force participation rate. Estimates from the February 2006 LFS were published in **Labour Force, Australia, February 2006** (cat. no. 6202.0) in March 2006. This publication is included on the CURF CD-ROM as the Acrobat file 62020\_FEB 2006.PDF.

The Labour Mobility survey is conducted biennially in February as a supplement to the LFS. It provides information about people aged 15 years and over who, within the 12 months to February 2006, either had a change of employer/business in their main job, or had some change in work with their current employer/business for whom they had worked for one year or more. People who had worked with their employer/business at February 2006 for one year or more were asked whether, in the 12 months to February 2006, they had changed the number of usual hours worked. Employees (excluding owner managers of incorporated enterprises) were also asked whether they had been promoted, transferred to a different

position, or changed occupation in the 12 months to February 2006. Employees who reported any of these changes were considered to have had some change in work in the 12 months to February 2006. Estimates from the February Labour Mobility survey were published in **Labour Mobility, Australia, February 2006** (cat. no. 6209.0) in December 2006. This publication is included on the CURF CD-ROM as the Acrobat file 6209\_FEB 2006.PDF.

## FUTURE RELEASES

The February 2006 LFS and Labour Mobility CURF is the second in the series of CURFs containing microdata from the LFS. It is planned to release a CURF every year, alternating between the February and August supplementary topics. The upcoming CURFs are:

- LFS and Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership (EEBTUM), August 2006, scheduled for release in May 2007; and
- LFS and Labour Mobility, February 2008, scheduled for release in November 2008.

It is planned that future CURFs will be released as expanded CURFs, accessible only through the RADL, as well as Basic CURFs available on CD-ROM and the RADL. Expanded CURFs allow more detail to be presented for some data items, for example, geography, age, industry and occupation.

## Conditions of Release

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The February 2006 LFS and Labour Mobility Basic CURF is released in accordance with a Ministerial Determination (Clause 7, Statutory Rules 1983, No.19) in pursuance of section 13 of the **Census and Statistics Act 1905**. As required by the Determination, the CURF has been designed so that the information on the file is not likely to enable the identification of the particular person to which it relates.

The Australian Statistician's approval is required for each release of the CURF. In addition and prior to being granted access to the CURF, all organisations, and individuals within organisations, who request access to the CURF will be required to sign an Undertaking to abide by the legislative restrictions on use. Organisations and individuals who seek access to the 2006 LFS and Labour Mobility Basic CURF are required to give an undertaking which includes, among other conditions, that in using the CURF data they will:

- use the data only for the statistical purposes specified
- not attempt to identify particular persons or organisations
- not disclose, either directly or indirectly, the data to any other person or organisation other than members of their organisation who have been approved by the ABS to have individual access to the information
- not attempt to match, with or without using identifiers, the data with any other list of

persons or organisations

- in relation to data made available via the Remote Access Data Laboratory (RADL) or the ABS Site Data Laboratory (ABSDL), access the data only in a manner specifically authorised in writing by the ABS
- not attempt to access the data after the term of their authorisation expires, or after their authorisation is rescinded by the organisation which provided it, or after they cease to be a member of that organisation.

Use of the data for statistical purposes means use of the content of the CURF to produce information of a statistical nature, i.e. the arrangement and classification of numerical facts or data, including statistical analyses or statistical aggregates. Examples of statistical purposes are:

- manipulation of the data to produce means, correlations or other descriptive or summary measures
- estimation of population characteristics
- use of data as input to mathematical models or for other types of analysis (e.g. factor analysis)
- providing graphical or pictorial representations of the characteristics of the population or subsets of the population.

All CURF users are required to read and abide by the '**Responsible Access to ABS Confidentialised Unit Record Files (CURFs) Training Manual**' available on the ABS website <<https://www.abs.gov.au>> Services We Provide> CURF Microdata> Accessing CURF Microdata>. Use of the data for unauthorised purposes may render the purchaser liable to severe penalties. Advice on the propriety of any particular intended use of the data is available from the Microdata Access Strategies Section via <[microdata.access@abs.gov.au](mailto:microdata.access@abs.gov.au)> or on (02) 6252 7714.

## **CONDITIONS OF SALE**

All ABS products and services are provided subject to the ABS conditions of sale. Any queries relating to these Conditions of Sale should be referred to <[intermediary.management@abs.gov.au](mailto:intermediary.management@abs.gov.au)>.

While the utmost care is taken in handling each CURF on CD-ROM, deterioration may occur between the time of copying and receipt of the file. Accordingly, if the CD-ROM is unreadable on receipt and this is reported to the ABS within 30 days of receipt, it will be replaced free of charge.

## **PRICE**

As at April 2007, the recommended retail price of the February 2006 LFS and Labour Mobility Basic CURF on CD-ROM or via the RADL is \$1,320 including GST.

## **ACCESSING THE CURF**

All clients wishing to access the February 2006 LFS and Labour Mobility Basic CURF should refer to the ABS website, <<https://www.abs.gov.au>> Services We Provide> CURF Microdata> and read the '**Responsible Access to ABS Confidentialised Unit Record Files (CURFs) Training Manual**', and other relevant information, before downloading the appropriate Application and Undertaking forms and applying for access.

## Australian universities

University clients should refer to the ABS website <<https://www.abs.gov.au>> Services We Provide> Services for Universities>. The 2006 LFS and Labour Mobility Basic CURF can be accessed by universities participating in the ABS/Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee (AVCC) CURF agreement for research and teaching purposes.

## Other clients

Other prospective clients should contact the Microdata Access Strategies Section of the ABS via <[microdata.access@abs.gov.au](mailto:microdata.access@abs.gov.au)> or on (02) 6252 7714.

## ORDERING TABLES

Access to the full detail from the survey (including data items excluded from the CURF) is only available through tables produced by the ABS. Requirements for these tables should be discussed with the Labour Market Statistics section on (02) 6252 7206.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information about accessing the CURF, clients should contact the Microdata Access Strategies Section of the ABS via <[microdata.access@abs.gov.au](mailto:microdata.access@abs.gov.au)> or on (02) 6252 7714. The CURF is not available on CD-ROM to overseas customers.

# File Content

## FILE CONTENT

The February 2006 Labour Force Survey (LFS) and Labour Mobility Basic CURF contains the files listed below and is available on CD-ROM, and/or through the RADL.

## TEST FILES

The test files mirror the actual data files, but have random data and random identifiers. These files are in the RADL website and can be downloaded so users can use these to trouble shoot their code prior to submitting RADL jobs.

## **SAS files**

These files contain the data for the Basic CURF in SAS for Windows format.

MOB06B.SAS7BDAT

## **SPSS files**

These files contain the data for the Basic CURF in SPSS for Windows format.

MOB06B.SAV

## **STATA files**

These files contain the data for the Basic CURF in STATA format.

MOB06B.DTA

## **INFORMATION FILES**

FORMATS.SAS7BCAT

This file is a SAS library containing formats.

FREQUENCIES\_WEIGHTED\_MOB06B

FREQUENCIES\_UNWEIGHTED\_MOB06B

These files contain documentation of the Person level data. Data item code values and category labels are provided with weighted and unweighted person frequencies of each value. These files are in plain text format.

RESPONSIBLE ACCESS TO CURFs.PDF

This is an acrobat file explaining the CURF users' role and obligations when using confidentialised data.

6202.0.30.005.PDF

This is an acrobat file that contains this Technical Manual.

# Survey Methodology

## SURVEY METHODOLOGY

### SAMPLE DESIGN

The LFS is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings and a list sample of non-private dwellings and covers about 0.45% of the population of Australia. Households are interviewed each month for eight months, with one-eighth of the sample being replaced each month. In February 2006, the number of fully responding individuals was 63,831.

The Labour Mobility survey is conducted on 7/8ths of the LFS sample and covers both urban and rural areas in all states and territories, but excludes people living in very remote areas of Australia. Information is collected about people aged 15 years and over who, within the 12 months to February 2006, either had a change of employer/business in their main job, or had some change in work with their current employer/business for whom they had worked for one year or more. In February 2006, the number of fully completed interviews (after taking into account scope, coverage and subsampling exclusions) was 35,637.

The scope of the LFS was people aged 15 years and over and excluded the following:

- members of the permanent defence forces
- certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from the census and estimated population counts
- overseas residents in Australia
- members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants).

Additional exclusions for the Labour Mobility survey were:

- students at boarding schools
- institutionalised persons (e.g. patients in hospitals; residents of homes, such as retirement homes and homes for persons with disabilities; and inmates of prisons)
- persons living in very remote parts of Australia who would otherwise have been within scope of the survey. The exclusion of these persons will only have a minor impact on any aggregate estimates that are produced from the Labour Mobility survey for individual states and territories, with the exception of the Northern Territory where such persons account for around 23% of the population.

### WEIGHTING ESTIMATION AND BENCHMARKING

Weighting is the process of adjusting results from a sample survey to infer results for the total population. To do this, a weight is allocated to each sample unit. The weight is a value which indicates how many population units are represented by the sample unit. Separate weights were calculated for LFS and Labour Mobility samples (as some units were in scope for LFS but not for Labour Mobility). The LFS weighting method ensures that LFS estimates conform to the benchmark distribution of the population by age, sex and geographic area, and also LFS region by sex (two sets of benchmarks). Weights are allocated to each sample respondent according to their state/territory of selection, state/territory of usual residence, part of state of usual residence, age group and sex. The weights are calculated using the

inverse of the probabilities of selection, adjusted for any under-enumeration and non-response.

The Labour Mobility survey is benchmarked to LFS estimates for the following variables: state of usual residence, part of state of usual residence, sex, age group and labour force status.

Benchmarking to LFS estimates accounts for the one eighth of the sample where the Labour Mobility survey is not conducted and for non-respondents to the Labour Mobility survey. The Labour Mobility survey weighting excludes all residents in institutions, boarding schools, and very remote areas because the sample scope excludes these people.

Survey estimates of the number of people with a particular characteristic are obtained by summing the weights of people who have that characteristic.

For more information on weights, see Using the CURF Microdata.

## **RELIABILITY OF THE ESTIMATES**

Since the information on the CURF is based on information from a sample of dwellings, any statistics produced from the CURF will be subject to sampling error and non-sampling error.

### **Sampling error**

Sampling error is the difference between the survey estimate and the value that could have been produced had all dwellings in scope of the survey been included. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error (SE), which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied because only a sample of dwellings was included.

There are about two chances in three (67%) that a sample estimate will differ by less than one SE from the number that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about 19 chances in 20 (95%) that the difference will be less than two SEs. Another measure of the likely difference is the relative standard error (RSE), which is obtained by expressing the SE as a percentage of the estimate. Generally, only estimates with RSEs less than 25% are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes.

Tables of standard errors are provided in the Technical Notes of the publications **Labour Force Survey, Australia, February 2006** (cat. no. 6202.0) and **Labour Mobility, Australia, February 2006** (cat. no. 6209.0), which are provided on the CURF CD-ROM. These figures do not give a precise measure of the SE for a particular estimate but will provide an indication of its magnitude.

### **Non-sampling error**

Non-sampling error arises from inaccuracies in collecting, recording and processing the microdata. These inaccuracies may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a

sample. Every effort is made to keep the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and effective processing procedures.

## SEASONAL FACTORS

Estimates are based on information collected in the survey month, and, due to seasonal factors, they may not be representative of other months of the year.

## MORE INFORMATION

Further information on the survey methodology can be found in:

- **Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001) which is available on the ABS website <<https://www.abs.gov.au>> (Methods, Classifications, Concepts & Standards)
- **Information Paper - Labour Force Survey Sample Design, November 2002** (cat. no. 6269.0)
- **Information Paper - Labour Force Survey Standard Errors, 2003** (cat. no. 6298.0)
- **Information Paper: Questionnaires Used in the Labour Force Survey** (cat. no. 6232.0)
- **Australian Labour Market Statistics** (cat. no. 6105.0).

# Using the CURF Microdata

## USING THE CURF MICRODATA

### ABOUT THE MICRODATA

The LFS and Labour Mobility microdata are released under the **Census and Statistics Act 1905**, which has provision for the release of microdata in the form of unit records where the information is not likely to enable the identification of a particular person or organisation. Accordingly, there are no names or addresses of survey respondents on the CURF and other steps have been taken to protect the confidentiality of respondents. These include removing some data items from the CURF, reducing the level of detail shown on the CURF for some other items and swapping some characteristics between records.

Steps to confidentialise the data sets made available on the CURF are taken in such a way as to ensure the integrity of the data sets and optimise their content, while maintaining the confidentiality of respondents. Intending purchasers should ensure that the data they require, at the level of detail they require, are available on the CURF they are intending to use; data obtained in the survey but not contained in the CURF may be available in tabulated form on request. The full list of survey data items included on the CURF is provided in Appendix 2, Data Item List.

The CURF contains 63,831 confidentialised respondent records. Each person record has a unique person identifier (ABSPID). Subject to the limitations of sample size and the data classifications used, it is possible to manipulate the microdata, produce tabulations and undertake statistical analyses to individual specifications.

## CURF CONTENTS

The CD-ROM version of the CURF is available in SAS, SPSS and STATA formats.

Five types of files relating to LFS and Labour Mobility 2006 microdata are provided on the CURF:

- Data and metadata - an ASCII data file holding 63,831 records, and metadata files that document the data file and every data item on that file. The metadata are provided in a plain text file, for reading
- SAS user files - including a SAS version of the data set, and the SAS programs that generated the SAS-formatted version
- SPSS user files - including an SPSS version of the data set
- STATA user files - including a STATA version of the data set; and
- Information files - including several in Adobe Acrobat format.

## USE OF WEIGHTS

As the survey was conducted on a sample of households in Australia, it is important to take account of the method of sample selection when deriving estimates from the CURF. This is particularly important as a person's chance of selection in the survey varied depending on the state or territory in which they lived.

Each person record contains two weights, an LFS weight called LFSWTD and a weight to be used for Labour Mobility called FINPRSWT. These weights indicate how many people are represented by that person. There are two weights because the scope of the LFS is different to the scope of the Labour Mobility survey. For data items that are only applicable to Labour Mobility (refer to Appendix 2, Data Item List), it is important to use the Labour Mobility weight, FINPRSWT. Users should take care to ensure the appropriate weight is used for analysis.

The LFS weight is available on all records on the CURF. The Labour Mobility weight, FINPRSWT, appears on approximately 35,637 records. The estimates in the Labour Mobility publication are based on a subset of these records, that is employees in main job. Therefore when using FINPRSWT, in order to match published Labour Mobility estimates, the filter POPSUP = 1 must be used.

Where estimates are derived from the CURF, it is essential that they are calculated by adding the weights of persons in each category and not just by counting the number in each category. If each person's 'weight' were to be ignored, then no account would be taken of a person's chance of selection or of different response rates across population groups, and the resulting estimates could be seriously biased.

The application of weights will ensure that the subsequent estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population by age and sex, rather than to the age and sex distribution within the sample itself.

For further information see the Explanatory Notes in the publications **Labour Force, Australia, February 2006** (cat. no. 6202.0) and **Labour Mobility, Australia, February 2006** (cat. no. 6209.0) on the CURF CD-ROM as Acrobat files 62020\_FEB 2006.PDF and 6209\_FEB 2006.PDF.

## **RECONCILIATION OF CURF WITH UNCONFIDENTIALISED DATA**

Steps to confidentialise the data made available on the CURF are taken in such a way as to maximise the content of the file while maintaining the confidentiality of respondents. The steps taken to preserve confidentiality may include:

- reducing the level of detail for some items (e.g. geographic and demographic)
- ranging or collapsing the values of some variables; and
- modifying some records identified as high risk.

As a result, it may not be possible to exactly reconcile all statistics produced from the CURF with published statistics.

## **MORE INFORMATION**

For further information about using the microdata contained in the CURF, contact the Labour Market Statistics Section on (02) 6252 7206.

## **About this Release**

Provides information about confidentialised unit record data from the February 2006 Labour Force Survey and Labour Mobility supplementary survey. The Labour Mobility data is in relation to people aged 15 years and over who had worked at some time during the year ending February 2006. In addition to the standard labour force data items the Labour Mobility data provides details of changes in jobs between employers/businesses for up to three jobs, and for those people, who have been with their current employer/business for the last 12 months, the changes in their job including promotion, transfer, changes in occupation and usual hours worked. Estimates can be cross-classified by demographics such as state, sex, age, marital status and country of birth, as well as labour force characteristics.

## **Explanatory Notes**

## **Glossary**

## **GLOSSARY**

### **Ceased a job**

Left a job voluntarily or lost a job involuntarily.

Leaving a job voluntarily includes leaving a job because:

- of unsatisfactory work arrangements/pay/hours; or
- the job was seasonal, temporary or a holiday job and they left that job to return to studies; or
- they retired, started a new business, got a better job, or left for family or other reasons.

Losing a job involuntarily includes leaving a job because:

- they were retrenched or their business closed down because of financial difficulties; or
- the job was seasonal, temporary or a holiday job and they did not leave that job to return to studies; or
- they left their job because of their own ill health or injury.

### **Change in employer/business**

People who were employed at February 2006 and, within the 12 months to February 2006, ceased working with one employer/business and started working with another employer/business in relation to their main job.

### **Change in employment type**

Any change in employment type in relation to main job.

### **Change in industry**

Any change between industry Divisions as classified by the **Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 1993** (cat. no. 1292.0).

### **Change in occupation**

Any change between Major occupation groups as classified by the **Australian Standard Classification of Occupations, Second Edition (ASCO), 1997** (cat. no. 1220.0). Note that for the item **Whether changed occupation with current employer in the last 12 months (any change)** a change in occupation can be any change in occupation whether within or between Major occupation groups.

### **Change in usual hours**

Any change in the number of usual hours worked in relation to main job.

### **Change in work**

Employees, excluding owner managers of incorporated enterprises (OMIEs) were considered to have had some change in work if they had been with their current employer for one year or more at February 2006 and, in the 12 months to February 2006, had:

- been promoted
- transferred to a different position
- changed usual hours worked; or
- changed occupation.

### **Contributing family workers**

People who work without pay, in an economic enterprise operated by a relative.

### **Current employer/business**

Refers to the employer/business which the person had in the week before the interview. Where the person had more than one employer/business the employer/business for which most hours were usually worked, was regarded as the current employer/business.

### **Different employment type**

See 'Change in employment type'.

### **Different industry**

See 'Change in industry'.

### **Different occupation**

See 'Change in occupation'.

### **Different usual hours worked**

See 'Change in usual hours'.

### **Duration of last job**

The period from the commencement of the last job up to the time the person ceased working in that job.

### **Duration with current employer/business**

The period between the commencement with the current employer/business and the week before the interview.

### **Duration with employer/business at February 2006**

See 'Duration with current employer/business'.

### **Employed**

People aged 15 years and over who, during the reference week:

- worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind, in a job or business or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers); or
- worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers); or
- were employees who had a job but were not at work and were:
- away from work for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week; or
- away from work for more than four weeks up to the end of the reference week and received pay for some or all of the four week period to the end of the reference week; or
- away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement; or
- on strike or locked out; or
- on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job; or
- were employers or own account workers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

### **Employees**

People who work for a public or private employer and receive remuneration in wages, salary, a retainer fee from their employer while working on a commission basis, tips, piece rates, or payment in kind, or people who operate their own incorporated enterprise with or without hiring employees.

### **Employer/business at February 2006**

See 'Current employer/business'.

## **Employers**

People who operate their own unincorporated economic enterprise or engage independently in a profession or trade, and hire one or more employees.

## **Employment type**

Classifies employed people according to the following categories on the basis of their main job (that is, the job in which they usually worked the most hours):

- Employees (excluding OMIEs)
  - with paid leave entitlements
  - without paid leave entitlements
- Owner managers of incorporated enterprises
- Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises
- Contributing family workers.

## **Job leavers**

People who ceased a job voluntarily, because:

- of unsatisfactory work arrangements/pay/hours; or
- the job was seasonal, temporary or a holiday job and they left that job to return to studies; or
- they retired, started a new business, got a better job, left for family reasons.

## **Job losers**

People who ceased a job involuntarily, because:

- they were retrenched or their business closed down because of financial difficulties; or
- the job was seasonal, temporary or a holiday job and they did not leave that job to return to studies; or
- they left their job because of their own ill health or injury.

## **Last job**

The last job in which employment ceased during the reference period.

## **Level of highest educational attainment**

Level of highest educational attainment identifies the highest achievement a person has attained in any area of study. It is not a measurement of the relative importance of different

fields of study but a ranking of qualifications and other educational attainments regardless of the particular area of study or the type of institution in which the study was undertaken.

### **Level of highest non-school qualification**

Non-school qualifications are awarded for educational attainments other than those of pre-primary, primary or secondary education. They include qualifications at the Postgraduate Degree level, Master Degree level, Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate level, Bachelor Degree level, Advanced Diploma and Diploma level, and Certificates I, II, III and IV levels. Non-school qualifications may be attained concurrently with school qualifications.

### **Main English-speaking countries**

The United Kingdom, Ireland, South Africa, Canada, the United States of America and New Zealand.

### **Main job**

The job in which the most hours were usually worked.

### **Not employed**

People who were either 'unemployed' or 'not in the labour force' as defined.

### **Not in the labour force**

People who were not in the categories 'employed' or 'unemployed' as defined.

### **Not working at February 2006**

See 'Not Employed'.

### **Own account workers**

People who operated their own unincorporated economic enterprise or engaged independently in a profession or trade, and hired no employees.

### **Owner managers**

People who worked in their own incorporated or unincorporated enterprise.

## **Owner managers of incorporated enterprises**

People who worked in their own incorporated enterprise, that is, a business entity which is registered as a separate legal entity to its members or owners (also known as a limited liability company). These people are classified as employees under 'status in employment'.

## **Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises**

People who operated their own unincorporated enterprise, that is, a business entity in which the owner and the business are legally inseparable, so that the owner is liable for any business debts that are incurred. Includes those engaged independently in a trade or profession. These people are classified as employers under 'status in employment' if their business has employees, or own account workers if it does not.

## **Previous job**

See 'Last job'.

## **Promoted**

A permanent increase in wage or salary and an increase in responsibility or complexity of work. Temporary promotions, acting and temporary higher duties are excluded.

## **Reference period**

The 52 weeks up to the end of the week prior to interview.

## **Reference week**

The week preceding the week in which the interview was conducted.

## **Retrenched**

People who ceased their last job because they were either:

- employees who were laid off, including no work available, made redundant, employer went out of business or dismissed; and
- self employed people whose business closed down for economic reasons, including 'went broke', liquidated, no work, or no supply or demand.

## **Status in employment**

Employed people classified by whether they were employees, employers, own account workers, or contributing family workers.

### **Transferred**

A change of position without a change in either the level of responsibility or wages or salary. Both employer-initiated and employee-initiated transfers are included.

### **Unemployed**

People aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week, and:

- had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week and were available for work in the reference week, or
- were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week, and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.

### **Usual hours worked**

The number of hours usually worked.

### **With paid leave entitlements**

Employees (excluding OMIEs), who were entitled to both paid sick leave and paid holiday leave; or were entitled to either paid sick leave or paid holiday leave (but not both). People employed in their own business or who were contributing family workers were not asked about their paid leave entitlements.

### **Without paid leave entitlements**

Employees (excluding OMIEs), who were entitled to neither paid sick leave nor paid holiday leave.

### **Worked at some time during the year ending February 2006**

For practical reasons it was not possible to include all of the questions from the Labour Force survey for previous periods. People who were either currently employed, or reported having worked for an employer or in their own business at some time in the previous year, were defined as having worked at some time during the year ending February 2006.

### **Working at February 2005**

For practical reasons it was not possible to include all of the questions from the Labour Force survey for previous periods. Therefore, people who reported that they had a job or business one year ago were defined as working at February 2005.

## Working at February 2006

See 'Employed'.

# Abbreviations

## ABBREVIATIONS

The following symbols and abbreviations are used in this publication:

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ABSDL	Australian Bureau of Statistics Site Data Laboratory
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
ASCO	Australian Standard Classification of Occupations
AVCC	Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee
CURF	confidentialised unit record file
EEBTUM	Survey of Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership
LFS	Labour Force Survey
OMIE	owner manager of incorporated enterprise
OMUE	owner manager of unincorporated enterprise
RADL	Remote Access Data Laboratory
RSE	relative standard error
SAS	software package for preparing and executing computerised data analysis
SE	standard error
SPSS	software package for preparing and executing computerised data analysis
STATA	software package for preparing and executing computerised data analysis

# Populations (Appendix 1)

## APPENDIX 1 POPULATIONS

### POPULATION LISTING AND RELATED SAS CODES

Description	SAS Name
Population 1 Persons who worked at some time during the year ending February 2006	CURFPOP1
Population 2 Persons who were working at February 2006	CURFPOP2
Population 3 Employees (excluding owner managers of incorporated enterprises) who had worked with their current employer for one year or more	CURFPOP3
Population 4	

Persons who ceased a job during the year ending February 2006	CURFPOP4
Population 5 Persons who ceased a job during the year ending February 2006 and were working at February 2006	CURFPOP5
Population 6 Persons who were working at February 2005	CURFPOP6
Population 7 Persons who were working at February 2005 and at February 2006	CURFPOP7
Population 8 Persons who had worked with their employer/business at February 2006 for one year or more	CURFPOP8
Population 9 Employees at February 2006 (excluding owner managers of incorporated enterprises) with paid leave entitlements	CURFPOP9
Population 10 Employees at February 2006 (excluding owner managers of incorporated enterprises) without paid leave entitlements	CRFPOP10

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## Data item list (Appendix 2)

### APPENDIX 2 DATA ITEM LIST

#### DATA ITEMS

This section lists the data items, SAS names and populations which relate to the LFS and Labour Mobility CURF. Every record has an identifier ABSPID.

The LFS weight is called LFSWT.

The LABOUR MOBILITY weight is called FINPRSWT.

The following data items are LFS items:

- State/territory
- Capital city/balance of state
- Sex
- Social marital status
- Relationship in household
- Year of arrival
- Country of birth
- Age
- Labour force status at February 2006
- Status in employment at February 2006
- Full-time or part-time status at February 2006
- Usual hours worked at February 2006
- Occupation at February 2006
- Industry at February 2006.

All other data items are only available for the Labour Mobility sample. For more information see 'Use of weights' in the 'Using the CURF microdata' chapter.

Classification	SAS NamePopulation	
State/territory	STATEURC	All
NSW		
Vic.		
Qld		
SA		
WA		
Tas.		
Balance of Aust.*		
* (NT/ACT/Other territories)		
Capital city/balance of state	AREAURC	All
Capital city		
Balance of state		
Sex	SEX	All
Male		
Female		
Social marital status	MARSTAT	All
Married		
Not married		
Relationship in household	LMRHHCF	All
Husband, wife or partner		
Lone parent		
Dependent student		
Non-dependent child		
Other related individual		
Non-family member		
Relationship not determined		
Year of arrival	BIRTHARC	All
Born in Australia		
Arrived 1985 and before		
Arrived 1986-1995		
Arrived 1996 to year of collection		
Not stated/Inadequately described		
Country of birth	COBCURF	All
Not collected		
Australia		
Main English speaking countries *		
Other		
* Canada, Republic of Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, United Kingdom, United States of America		
Age	AGEBCB	All
15 to 24 *		
25 to 29		
30 to 34		
35 to 39		
40 to 44		
45 to 49		
50 to 54		
55 to 64 *		
65 to 69		
70 to 74		
75 to 79		
80 and over		
* single years		
Labour force status at February 2006	LFSTATCF	All
Employed		
Unemployed		
Not in the labour force		
Status in employment at February 2006 *	STATEMPC	All
Not applicable		
Employee		
Employer		
Own account worker/Contributing family worker		
* in current main job		
Full-time or part-time status at February 2006	FTPTSTAT	2,3,5,7-10

Not applicable		
Full-time employed		
Part-time employed		
Usual hours worked at February 2006	HRAWMJCF	All
Not applicable/Less than 1 hour		
1 to 5 hours		
6 to 10 hours		
11 to 15 hours		
16 to 20 hours		
21 to 24 hours		
25 to 29 hours		
30 to 34 hours		
35 to 39 hours		
40 hours		
41 to 44 hours		
45 to 49 hours		
50 to 59 hours		
60 hours and over		
Occupation at February 2006	OCURCURF	2,3,5,7-10
Not applicable		
Managers and administrators		
Professionals		
Associate professionals		
Tradespersons and related workers		
Advanced clerical and service workers		
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers		
Intermediate production and transport workers		
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers		
Labourers and related workers		
Industry at February 2006	LMINDCJS	2,3,5,7-10
Not applicable		
Agriculture, forestry and fishing		
Mining		
Manufacturing		
Electricity, gas and water supply		
Construction		
Wholesale trade		
Retail trade		
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants		
Transport and storage		
Communication services		
Finance and insurance		
Property and business services		
Government administration and defence		
Education		
Health and community services		
Cultural and recreational services		
Personal and other services		
Level of highest educational attainment	EATASCDC	All
Postgraduate Degree, Graduate Diploma/Graduate Certificate		
Bachelor Degree		
Advanced Diploma/Diploma		
Certificate III/IV		
Certificate I/II		
Certificate not further defined		
Year 12		
Year 11		
Year 10		
Year 9		
Year 8 or below/Never attended school		
Level not determined		
Level of highest non-school qualification	HIGHNSQC	All
Postgraduate Degree, Graduate Diploma/Graduate Certificate		
Bachelor Degree		
Advanced Diploma/Diploma		
Certificate III/IV		

	Certificate I/II		
	Certificate not further defined		
	No non-school qualification		
	Level not determined		
Highest year of school completed		SCHEDUC	All
	Year 12 or equivalent		
	Year 11 or equivalent		
	Year 10 or equivalent		
	Year 9 or equivalent		
	Year 8 or below, including never attended school		
Number of employers or businesses in the last 12 months		EMPBUSYC	All
	None		
	One		
	Two		
	Three		
	Four or more		
Change of employer/business		CHEMBUSC	4,5
	Not applicable		
	1 change in employer/business in the last 12 months		
	2 changes in employer/business in the last 12 months		
	3 or more changes in employer/business in the last 12 months		
	Did not change employer/business in the last 12 months		
	Currently not employed		
Change in work		CHGWORKC	3,8
	Not applicable		
	Same employer for one year or more: Employees (excluding OMIEs) with some change in work		
	Same employer for one year or more: Employees (excluding OMIEs) with no change in work		
	Owner managers and contributing family workers		
Whether working at February 2006		LMWKINGC	All
	Working		
	Not working		
Employment type at February 2006		TYPEEMPC	2,3,5,7-10
	Not applicable		
	Employees (excluding OMIEs) with paid leave entitlements		
	Employees (excluding OMIEs) without paid leave entitlements		
	Owner managers of incorporated enterprises		
	Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises/ Contributing family workers		
Duration with employer/business at February 2006		DREM06CF	2,3,5,7-10
	Not applicable		
	Under 3 months		
	3 and under 6 months		
	6 and under 12 months		
	1 and under 2 years		
	2 and under 3 years		
	3 and under 5 years		
	5 and under 10 years		
	10 and under 20 years		
	20 years and over		
Whether changed occupation with current employer in the last 12 months (any change)		MOBQ109C	3
	Not applicable		
	Same occupation		
	Changed occupation		
Whether changed occupation at ASCO Major Group (previous occupation to current occupation)*		OCPRECUR	3
	Not applicable		
	Same occupation		
	Different occupation		
	* Been with current employer for 12 months or more and whether had a change in occupation in the last 12 months		
Previous occupation with current employer/business		OCCPREVC	8
	Not applicable		
	Managers and administrators		
	Professionals		

Associate professionals			
Tradespersons and related workers			
Advanced clerical and service workers			
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers			
Intermediate production and transport workers			
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers			
Labourers and related workers			
Whether changed usual hours worked with current employer/business in the last 12 months - Employees (excluding OMIEs)	CHGHCURF	3	
Not applicable			
Same usual hours worked			
Changed usual hours worked:			
Still full time			
Still part time			
Full time to part time			
Part time to full time			
Varied/did not know			
Whether changed usual hours worked with current employer/business in the last 12 months - Owner managers and contributing family workers	CHGHR3C	3	
Not applicable			
Same usual hours worked			
Changed usual hours worked:			
Still full time			
Still part time			
Full time to part time			
Part time to full time			
Varied/did not know			
Previous usual hours worked with current employer/business	PREVHRSC	All	
Not applicable/Less than 1 hour			
1 to 5 hours			
6 to 10 hours			
11 to 15 hours			
16 to 20 hours			
21 to 24 hours			
25 to 29 hours			
30 to 34 hours			
35 to 39 hours			
40 hours			
41 to 44 hours			
45 to 49 hours			
50 to 59 hours			
60 hours and over			
Whether entitled to paid sick leave at February 2006	SICK100C	3,9-10	
Not applicable			
Entitled to paid sick leave			
Not entitled to paid sick leave			
Did not know			
Whether entitled to paid holiday leave at February 2006	HOLS101C	3,9-10	
Not applicable			
Entitled to paid holiday leave			
Not entitled to paid holiday leave			
Did not know			
Whether had paid leave entitlements at February 2006	LVENTMJC	3,9-10	
Not applicable			
Had paid leave entitlements			
Did not have paid leave entitlements			
Whether promoted with current employer in the last 12 months	PROMEMP	3	
Not applicable			
Promoted			
Not promoted			
Whether transferred with current employer in the last 12 months	TRANSEMP	3	
Not applicable			
Transferred			
Not transferred			
Whether promoted and/or transferred with current employer in the last 12 months	PROMTRAC	3	

Not applicable		
Promoted and/or transferred		
Not promoted and/or transferred		
Reason for ceasing last job	MOBCEASC	4,5
Not applicable		
Job losers:		
Retrenched, made redundant, employer went out of business, dismissed, no work was available		
Job was temporary or seasonal		
Own health or injury		
Job leavers:		
Unsatisfactory work conditions		
Holiday job, returned to studies		
Retired		
New business, better job, family or other reasons		
Business closed or sold for other reasons		
Usual hours worked in last job	HRQ135DC	All
Not applicable/Less than 1 hour		
1 to 5 hours		
6 to 10 hours		
11 to 15 hours		
16 to 20 hours		
21 to 24 hours		
25 to 29 hours		
30 to 34 hours		
35 to 39 hours		
40 hours		
41 to 44 hours		
45 to 49 hours		
50 to 59 hours		
60 hours and over		
Employment type in last job	TYPEMP2C	4,5
Not applicable		
Employees (excluding OMIEs) with paid leave entitlements		
Employees (excluding OMIEs) without paid leave entitlements		
Owner managers of incorporated enterprises		
Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises/Contributing family workers		
Duration of last job	DURLJB2C	4,5
Not applicable		
Under 3 months		
3 and under 6 months		
6 and under 12 months		
1 and under 2 years		
2 and under 3 years		
3 and under 5 years		
5 and under 10 years		
10 and under 20 years		
20 years and over		
When began last job	BEGANLSJ	4,5
Not applicable		
Began last job more than one year ago		
Began and ceased a job in the last 12 months		
Whether changed occupation (last to current employer/business)	LMCHOCCF	5
Not applicable		
Same occupation		
Changed occupation		
Whether changed industry (last to current employer/business)	LMCINDCF	5
Not applicable		
Same industry		
Changed industry		
Whether changed employment type (last to current employer/business)	CHEMTYCF	5
Not applicable		
Same employment type		
Changed employment type		
Whether changed usual hours worked (last to current employer/business)	CHUSHRCF	4,5
Not applicable		

Same usual hours worked			
Changed usual hours worked			
Currently not employed			
Occupation of last job		OCCLASTC	4,5
Not applicable			
Managers and administrators			
Professionals			
Associate professionals			
Tradespersons and related workers			
Advanced clerical and service workers			
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers			
Intermediate production and transport workers			
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers			
Labourers and related workers			
Industry of last job		LMINDLST	4,5
Not applicable			
Agriculture, forestry and fishing			
Mining			
Manufacturing			
Electricity, gas and water supply			
Construction			
Wholesale trade			
Retail trade			
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants			
Transport and storage			
Communication services			
Finance and insurance			
Property and business services			
Government administration and defence			
Education			
Health and community services			
Cultural and recreational services			
Personal and other services			
Whether entitled to paid sick leave in last job		SICK137C	4,5
Not applicable			
Entitled to paid sick leave			
Not entitled to paid sick leave			
Did not know			
Whether entitled to paid holiday leave in last job		HOLS138C	4,5
Not applicable			
Entitled to paid holiday leave			
Not entitled to paid holiday leave			
Did not know			
Whether had paid leave entitlements in last job		LVENTLJC	4,5
Not applicable			
Had paid leave entitlements			
Did not have paid leave entitlements			
Whether working at February 2005		LMWKNG2C	3-8
Working			
Not working			
Usual hours worked at February 2005		MOBQ155C	All
Not applicable/Less than 1 hour			
1 to 5 hours			
6 to 10 hours			
11 to 15 hours			
16 to 20 hours			
21 to 24 hours			
25 to 29 hours			
30 to 34 hours			
35 to 39 hours			
40 hours			
41 to 44 hours			
45 to 49 hours			
50 to 59 hours			

60 hours and over			
Employment type at February 2005		TYPEMP3C	3,6-8
Not applicable			
Employees (excluding OMIEs) with paid leave entitlements			
Employees (excluding OMIEs) without paid leave entitlements			
Owner managers of incorporated enterprises			
Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises/Contributing family workers			
Whether changed occupation (February 2005 to February 2006)		LMCHOMAC	3,7,8
Not applicable			
Same occupation			
Different occupation			
Whether changed industry (February 2005 to February 2006)		LMCHINDC	3,7,8
Not applicable			
Same industry			
Different industry			
Whether changed employment type (February 2005 to February 2006)		LMCEMTYC	3,7,8
Not applicable			
Same employment type			
Different employment type			
Whether changed usual hours worked (February 2005 to February 2006)		LMCUSHRC	3
Not applicable			
Same usual hours worked			
Different usual hours worked			
Currently not employed			
Occupation at February 2005		OCCFEBCU	3,6-8
Not applicable			
Managers and administrators			
Professionals			
Associate professionals			
Tradespersons and related workers			
Advanced clerical and service workers			
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers			
Intermediate production and transport workers			
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers			
Labourers and related workers			
Industry at February 2005		LMINDLFB	3,6-8
Not applicable			
Agriculture, forestry and fishing			
Mining			
Manufacturing			
Electricity, gas and water supply			
Construction			
Wholesale trade			
Retail trade			
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants			
Transport and storage			
Communication services			
Finance and insurance			
Property and business services			
Government administration and defence			
Education			
Health and community services			
Cultural and recreational services			
Personal and other services			
Whether entitled to paid sick leave at February 2005		SICK157C	3
Not applicable			
Entitled to paid sick leave			
Not entitled to paid sick leave			
Did not know			
Whether entitled to paid holiday leave at February 2005		HOLS158C	3
Not applicable			
Entitled to paid holiday leave			
Not entitled to paid holiday leave			
Did not know			

Not applicable

Had paid leave entitlements

Did not have paid leave entitlements

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